

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-14  
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00 ICA-20 NSC-05  
OES-07 OMB-01 /075 W  
-----082060 060829Z /21

O R 060740Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4685  
HQ US CUSTOMS WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS SOFIA 1065

USICA FOR VOA/PE (PLANINSKY); STATE FOR S/NM  
VIENNA FOR RPO

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SNAR, BU  
SUBJECT: BULGARIAN/AMERICAN CUSTOMS TRAINING PROGRAM

1. AT THE SPORTS PALACE IN VARNA OPENED MONDAY, JUNE 5 THE  
FIFTH ANNUAL BILATERAL TRAINING PROGRAM FOR CUSTOMS INSPECTORS,  
CARRIED OUT AS PART OF A PROGRAM OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE  
CUSTOMS SERVICES OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA AND THE  
USA.

2. A VISITING TEAM OF FOUR SENIOR OFFICIALS OF AMERICAN  
CUSTOMS WILL WORK CLOSELY OVER THE NEXT THREE WEEKS WITH THEIR  
BULGARIAN COLLEAGUES IN SEEKING TO DEVELOP FURTHER SKILLS IN  
THE FIELD OF NARCOTICS INTERDICTION. THE PROGRAM WILL INCLUDE  
BOTH THEORETICAL LECTURES AND PRACTICAL, FIELD TRAINING EXER-  
CISES.

3. IN HIS OPENING ADDRESS, BULGARIAN CUSTOMS DIRECTOR GENERAL  
LAZAR BONEV WELCOMED THE AMERICAN TEAM TO BULGARIA AND WISHED  
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BOTH SIDES THE GREATEST SUCCESS IN PURSUING THEIR COMMON  
OBJECTIVE OF DEVELOPING MEANS OF REDUCING THE FLOW OF  
SMUGGLED NARCOTICS ACROSS BULGARIA TO MARKETS IN WESTERN  
EUROPE. RESPONDING ON BEHALF OF AMERICAN AMBASSADOR  
RAYMOND L. GARTHOFF, EMBASSY FIRST SECRETARY DANIEL H.  
SIMPSON CONGRATULATED BULGARIAN CUSTOMS ON ITS GROWING  
WORLDWIDE REPUTATION FOR EFFECTIVENESS IN APPREHENDING

NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS AND PLEDGED THE CONTINUING COMMITMENT OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT TO COOPERATION WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST NARCOTICS SMUGGLING.

4. IN THIS REGARD, THE TWO COUNTRIES WILL JOINTLY SPONSOR IN SEPTEMBER IN VARNA AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF CUSTOMS SERVICES AND OFFICIALS IN CHARGE OF NARCOTICS INTERDICTION IN THOSE SERVICES FROM SOME 25 COUNTRIES OF EUROPE, ASIA, AFRICA, AND NORTH AMERICA AND SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES OF UNITED NATIONS' AGENCIES CONCERNED WITH NARCOTICS QUESTIONS.  
GARTHOFF

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DRUG CONTROL, PERSONNEL TRAINING  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Subject:** BULGARIAN/AMERICAN CUSTOMS TRAINING PROGRAM  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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